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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
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Agenda item 6

QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, INCLUDING POLICIES OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND SEGREGATION AND OF APARTHEID, IN ALL COUNTRIES, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO COLONIAL AND OTHER DEPENDENT COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES: REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMISSION UNDER COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTION 8 (XXIII)

Written statement submitted by the World Federation of Democratic Youth, a non-governmental organization in consultative status (category I)

The Secretary-General has received the following communication, which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV).

[2 August 1995]

Resolution on international solidarity, adopted by the General Assembly of the World Federation of Democratic Youth in February 1995

1. Since its formation in 1945, international solidarity has been a key aspect of the work of the World Federation of Democratic Youth (WFDY). Such solidarity had been reflected in the anti-imperialist and anti-Fascist stance of WFDY, its support for the South African and Namibian struggles in Africa and the Palestinian struggle in the Middle East.

2. In the world today, there is an ever increasing need for solidarity with people who suffer political, religious, social and economic persecution and the continued violation of basic human rights. Our solidarity should be based on the desire to resolve conflicts but also to ensure that we contribute to the improvement of the socio-economic and political conditions of people everywhere.

3. Noting that local and regional conflicts continue unabated and with disastrous consequences for millions of people, WFDY has an obligation to provide solidarity to youths the world over.

Thus, the Assembly resolves the following:

AFRICA

Western Sahara

Recognizing the efforts for peace and the right to self-determination of the people of this region, WFDY calls for the immediate implementation of all relevant United Nations resolutions, especially the proposal for a referendum to determine the future of Western Sahara.

Rwanda

Condemning the unprecedented slaughter of hundreds of thousands and the ensuing spread of famine and disease, we call on all member organizations and regions to contribute to the relief efforts. A relief programme will be coordinated by the Africa region of WFDY. We note with deep suspicion and displeasure the involvement of the French Government in the affairs of Rwanda.

Sudan

Recognizing the right of people to choose their own Government, WFDY condemns the military take-over and consequent fundamentalism, terrorism and carnage in the Sudan and calls for an immediate end to the civil war being waged there. WFDY also calls upon the international community to exert pressure on the military regime to respect and uphold the human rights of the Sudanese people as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations.

ASIA/PACIFIC

East Timor

WFDY recognizes the right to self-determination of the East Timorese people and condemns the illegal annexation of East Timor by Indonesia. We also call on all member organizations to actively campaign for the withdrawal of all Indonesian troops and to put an end to persecution.

Burma

WFDY condemns the military dictatorship in Burma for its violation of human rights. We call for the release of all political prisoners and an immediate cessation of the genocidal war against ethnic minorities and democratic forces.

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

WFDY welcomes the adoption of the DPRK-US framework in solving the nuclear issues and demands the United States to give up the antagonistic policy towards the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. WFDY recognizes and supports the struggle of the Korean people and youth to achieve Korean reunification by founding a democratic and confederal republic based on the principles of independence, peaceful reunification and national unity as outlined in the 10-point programme for greater unity and reunification of their fatherland.

Iran

WFDY denounces the continuing violation of political and human rights in Iran. We support the struggle of the youth and people of Iran to restore democracy in their country.

EUROPE/NORTH AMERICA

Cyprus

WFDY condemns strongly the illegal invasion of Cyprus by Turkey and calls for the implementation of all United Nations resolutions dealing with Cyprus. All member organizations of WFDY are urged to expose the human rights abuses of Turkey and to call for its immediate withdrawal from Cyprus.

The former Yugoslavia

We note with immense pain and sorrow the continued conflicts that are manifesting themselves in the former Yugoslavia. We express our deepest solidarity with those who have been at the receiving end of these atrocities.

LATIN AMERICA

Cuba

Noting the continuation and tightening of the United States blockade against Cuba and that the occupation of the Guantanamo naval base is a flagrant violation of the norms of international coexistence and the right of the Cuban people to self-determination and sovereignty, and calling for the immediate lifting of the blockade, WFDY urges all member organizations to actively campaign against this inhuman and disastrous blockade.

Panama

Noting the presence of United States troops in the Panama Canal region, WFDY calls for the unconditional withdrawal of all these troops from that country. People must have the right to determine their own future.

Colombia

WFDY calls upon the international community and specially the United Nations to take immediate actions in condemning the Colombian Government and those responsible for the genocide against people, left and democratic forces in Colombia for political reasons.

THE MIDDLE EAST

Palestine

WFDY has always recognized the right to Palestinian statehood and applauds the efforts of the Palestinian people in asserting their right to self-determination. WFDY calls on all its member organizations and regions to assist the Palestinians in their quest to create the necessary infrastructure, authorities and institutions that will govern Palestine. In this regard, WFDY pledges to raise the material and financial resources to build a school or youth centre as a further contribution to the struggle of the Palestinian people.

Iraq

WFDY believes that the economic and military blockade against Iraq is having a devastating effect on the Iraqi people. We feel that the blockade should be lifted with immediate effect to alleviate the plight of those who are suffering. We also condemn in the strongest way possible the Iraqi Government for the gross violation of basic human rights, causing immense misery to the Iraqi people.

Lebanon

WFDY condemns the Israeli violation of human rights in southern Lebanon and demands the immediate release of all Lebanese prisoners detained by the Israelis. WFDY expresses its solidarity with the youth and people of Lebanon in their aspiration to see the complete withdrawal of Israel from South Lebanon.

Syria

WFDY condemns the Israeli occupation of the Golan Heights. WFDY expresses its solidarity with the youth and people of Syria in their aspiration to see the complete withdrawal of Israel from the Golan Heights.

Algeria

Condemning the increase in terrorism under the guise of religious fundamentalism in Algeria, WFDY calls for an end to all violence and for the respect of the basic human rights of the Algerian people. We believe that the democratic and political wishes of the people should be respected.

The Kurdish people

The Kurds, a people scattered in Turkey, Iraq and Iran have been struggling to gain their national and cultural rights. They face immense hardship and persecution and WFDY calls on the Turkish, Iraqi and Iranian Governments to stop their bloody repression of the Kurdish people.

WFDY also resolves to engage all other international youth and student organizations in an effort to coordinate and consolidate our solidarity in the above-mentioned situations.